THE MOUNT

Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles ⚜ *Summer/Fall 2009*

Role Models

Mount students inspire L.A. youths to go beyond high school

Catholic Identity ⚜ Gallery Turns 35 ⚜ Teaching With Heart

from the president

Dear Reader,

As I reflect on our past academic year, I am reminded of how our partnerships with other colleges and universities enrich and expand the experiences of our students. Through academic collaboration, co-curricular activities, or mutual institutional support, these relationships broaden the resources we have available.

Mount students engaged in research with Mount faculty have benefited from their professors' relationships with both UCLA and Caltech. Professors Deniz Cizmeciyan-Papazyan and Julia Chang regularly accompany students to UCLA where they utilize both laboratories and equipment. Professor Eric Stemp travels with students to Caltech to conduct experimental research on DNA.

Cross-registration between the Mount and both UCLA and American Jewish University is available to our baccalaureate students. One of our mathematics majors recently completed applied statistics at UCLA. American Jewish University students frequently enroll in foreign language courses at Mount St. Mary's.

Mount students have many opportunities to study at partner institutions both at home and abroad. Students may attend the Washington Semester program at American University in Washington, D.C. Our interchange with CSJ sister schools is also an attractive option. In recent years, Mount students have attended St. Catherine University in Minneapolis and The College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y. Last year, Mount St. Mary's hosted a student from Fontbonne University in St. Louis, and this spring, we hosted two students from Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia. And through our affiliation with the American Institute for Foreign Study, students have spent a semester abroad studying in Spain, Australia and Korea.

Locally, Loyola Marymount partners with the Mount in the Bridging Cultures: U.S. and China program. Together, we bring a visiting scholar from China's Nanjing University to the U.S. each year to speak to our students about life in China.

Recently, the Mount formed a transfer agreement with Santa Monica College to provide a guaranteed pathway to our baccalaureate program as well as to the master's degree in nursing. A similar agreement has been established with Pasadena City College to help prepare students to transfer into a teacher preparation program. Pasadena City College and Mount St. Mary's have also collaborated in a joint Title V grant to help improve graduation rates, with a specific focus on Hispanic and first-generation college attendees.

Several institutions enlarge our co-curricular life at the College, including UCLA, USC, and Loyola Marymount. We enjoy an intramural sports program with UCLA and campus ministry activities and service projects with LMU. With support from a U.S. Department of Justice grant, the Mount and USC work alongside the nine colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District to help prevent violence against women by designing educational student programming and policy development.

These partnerships provide valuable opportunities for learning, and strengthen our bonds with colleagues and students at other institutions, as we strive to enrich the hearts and minds of our students.

With warm regards,

Jacqueline Powers Doud
President

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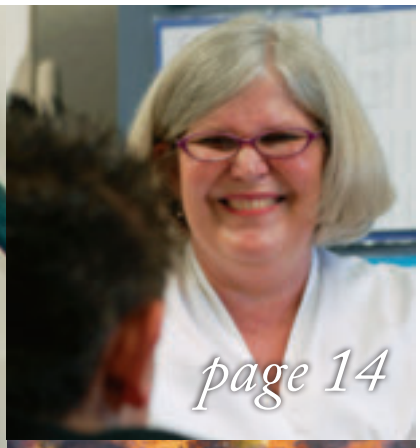

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Student ambassadors encourage local teens to attend college.

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Mount St. Mary's prepares compassionate educators for L.A.'s vulnerable students.

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HIgh school student Erika Bryant (left) with Mount student ambassador Angela Larios (right).
Photo by Glenn Marzano

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in the moment

Photo: Wtin Jalanugraha

Freshman Zully Garcia competes in the inner tube pull during the Athenian Day games held in February on the Chalon Campus.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mount St. Mary's College offers a dynamic learning experience in the liberal arts and sciences to a diverse student body. As a Catholic college primarily for women, we are dedicated to providing a superior education enhanced by an emphasis on building leadership skills and fostering a spirit to serve others. Our measure of success is graduates who are committed to using their knowledge and skills to better themselves, their environments, and the world.

THE MOUNT

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EDITOR
Sarah Scopio

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Debbie Ream

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Joanna Banks

CLASS NOTES EDITOR
Barbara (Dummel) Brunner '63

DESIGN
San Luis Design

PHOTOGRAPHY
Glenn Cratty, Wtin Jalanugraha, Glenn Marzano, Mel Melcon, Carlos Puma, Sarah Scopio, MSMC Archives

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To contact the editor or submit a story idea, write to Sarah Scopio, associate director of public relations, Mount St. Mary's College, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA, 90007; email sscopio@msmc.la.edu; or call 213.477.2504. Class Notes news should be mailed to Alumnae Relations at the same address or emailed to jruiz@msmc.la.edu.

For Information
Alumnae Relations 213.477.2767
Business Office 310.954.4040
Chalon Campus 310.954.4000
Doheny Campus 213.477.2500
Financial Aid 310.954.4190
Graduate Admission 213.477.2800
Institutional Advancement 213.477.2764
Undergraduate Admission 310.954.4250
Weekend College 213.477.2866

Mount Named to President's Honor Roll for Community Service

Mount St. Mary's College was honored in February with a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service to the greater Los Angeles area.

"Community service is a hallmark of our students' liberal arts education," said President Jacqueline Powers Doud. "The Mount actively engages students in service both through coursework and programs outside of the classroom that place them in mentoring and other service roles in the community."

Launched in 2006 by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.

Mount St. Mary's offers its students an exceptional array of activities throughout the greater Los Angeles area to enrich their college years. Initiatives include mentoring and tutoring K-12 students, community aid through service-learning coursework, feeding the homeless, organizing environmental clean-up projects, conducting oral histories with retired Sisters of St. Joseph and other seniors, and hosting fundraisers for local charities.

"In this time of economic distress, we need volunteers more than ever. College students represent an enormous pool of idealism and energy to help tackle some of our toughest challenges," says Stephen Goldsmith, vice chair of the board of directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service. "We salute Mount St. Mary's College for making community service a campus priority, and thank the millions of college students who are helping to renew America through service to others."

MSMC Signs First International Student Exchange Agreement

President Jacqueline Powers Doud recently signed an agreement with Professor Chen Jun, president of Nanjing University in Nanjing, China, to establish the Mount's first international student exchange program. The Mount currently offers study abroad opportunities for its students, but this is the first time the College will host international students on campus through a mutual exchange program.

The program allows students from Nanjing University's English Department in the School of Foreign Studies and Mount St. Mary's to spend a semester at the other institution. The first semester of the exchange will be spring 2010.

from the faculty

Margaret Avila, assistant professor of nursing, co-authored a chapter in "Community Health Nursing: Promoting and Protecting the Public's Health," published in February.

Sylvia Bagley, assistant professor and the Fritz Burns Endowed Chair of Education, attended the 53rd Annual Comparative and International Education Society Conference in Charleston, S.C., in March. Bagley recently co-authored a chapter, "Community-Based Folk High Schools in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark," which was published in "Community College Models: Globalization and Higher Education Reform" in March.

Deniz Cizmeciyan-Papazyan, associate professor of chemistry and director of the MARC program (Minority Access to Research Careers), had a paper accepted for publication in Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry. The paper, "Radical Pairs with Rotational Fluidity in the Photochemical Reaction of Acetophenone and Cyclohexane in the Zeolite NaY: A 13C CPMAS NMR and Product Analysis Study," is in collaboration with UCLA and features six undergraduate Mount students.

from the faculty

Robin Gordon, associate professor of education, had her essay, "Finding the Philosopher's Stone," published in "Reimagining Education: Essays on Reviving the Soul of Learning" in April.

Carol Johnston, assistant professor of education, co-authored "An Inquiry Into the Development of Teacher Identities in STEM Career Changers," which was published in the Journal of Science Teacher Education. Johnson presented "STEM Career-Changers in Their First Years of Teaching: A Follow-up Study" at the National Association for Research in Science Teaching 2009 Conference in Garden Grove, Calif., in April.

Joan Johnson, English instructor, had her short story "The Plumber's Nun," accepted for publication in AMBIT, a literary magazine in London.

Sister Darlene Kawulok, CSJ, chair of the religious studies department, presented "Examining the Liberative Texts of Nican Mopohua and the Tilma Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in a Mexican-American College Context" at the College Theology Society Annual Convention at Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I., in June 2008.

Mount Celebrates Commencement 2009

The Mount celebrated Commencement 2009 on May 11 with more than 500 graduates of its associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs. Speaker Sister Helen Prejean, CSJ, who gained acclaim for penning the Pulitzer Prize-nominated book-turned-movie "Dead Man Walking," inspired new degree-holders to pursue their passions.

"My prayer for you, and my hope for you, is that you will catch fire — that you will be able to devote your whole life to your passion," Prejean told graduates. "We all rejoice that you will go out and love the world in a way that it has never been loved before."

The College presented Prejean with its honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, for her work defending the rights of the innocent and her strong belief that every person should be treated with dignity and respect. The ceremony was held at the Gibson Amphitheatre in Universal City, Calif.

Also at the ceremony, the College presented its highest honor, the Carondelet Medal, to Joan Payden, president and chief executive officer of Payden & Rygel, and to Susan Stark Meyer '78, a 17-year nursing faculty member. The two women were honored for their exceptional dedication to Mount St. Mary's College and its mission.

Two Trustees Join Board

The Mount's Board of Trustees named two new members this spring: Mark Foster and Catherine Fickes.

Foster previously served on the board from 1996-2008. He is currently president and CEO of Foster Investment Consulting LLC, a company he founded with Roland Seidler Jr. He is also a director of the Securities Industry Foundation for Economic Education in New York. Foster is a member of numerous community and philanthropic organizations, including several committees for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and related Catholic organizations. He attended the University of Southern California.

Fickes is currently president and CEO of St. Vincent Medical Center. Previously, she worked at Cambio Health Solutions, where she held the CEO role in several health systems. Fickes also served as interim CEO for Daniel Freeman Hospitals in Los Angeles. In addition to her health systems responsibilities, she has spent considerable time working with international healthcare organizations to provide medical services to the underserved population in Nicaragua. Fickes is a registered nurse in California.

College Names New Regents

The College welcomed four new members to the Regents Council this year: Shireen Fatemi, Danette (Hoffman) Magilligan '64, Susan (Becker) Sargent '75, and Dianne (Plou) Schautschick '65. The council is comprised of dedicated volunteers whose mission is to enhance the College's visibility and lead fundraising initiatives.

On September 26, the Regents Council will host "A Midsummer Night's Dream," a gala fundraiser to benefit the Mount's Student Ambassador program. The event will honor Kathleen H. Aikenhead, president of the William H. Hannon Foundation. For more information, contact Karen Butler, director of special events, at 213.477.2761 or kbutler@msmc.la.edu.

Council on Catholic Identity

This spring, the College's Council on Catholic Identity presented two opportunities for the College community to come together to reflect on contemporary Catholic issues.

In January, it hosted "How the Church in 2009 is Supporting Survivors of Abuse and Safeguarding Children," a panel presentation that was given at both the Chalon and Doheny campuses. Then in March, Trustee Monsignor Clement Connolly, pastor of Holy Family Church in South Pasadena, Calif., led a discussion on "The Role of Liberal Education in Becoming a Whole and Authentic Self in a Catholic Faith Perspective."

"The purpose of the Council on Catholic Identity is to bring together faculty, staff, College leadership, trustees, and students who are eager and willing to reflect thoughtfully on the state of Catholic higher education," said President Jacqueline Powers Doud, who established the council in 2005. "We address issues that are of concern to us as thoughtful members of the Catholic higher education community. This council helps us intentionally examine our

institutional mission and how it can become a lived experience."

"In our early meetings we discussed essays on Catholic identity and Catholic higher education," said Jane Lingua, vice president for student affairs and council member. "More recently we've included guest speakers. I'm grateful to be a part of a community that believes these issues are important enough to set aside time to come together and explore in a deep way."

The council is currently planning more events for the fall. "We look forward to continuing the conversation," said Lingua.

from the faculty

Rosamond Rodman, assistant professor of religious studies, presented "Naming a Place Nicodemus" at the annual Linguistic Society of America meeting in San Francisco in January.

Dolores Sloan, English instructor, is editor of the Journal of Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian Crypto Jews, which is published by Florida International University, in Miami.

Kimmie Tang, assistant professor of education, co-authored "Gender, Ethnicity and the Education of Cambodian American Students in a U.S. Urban High School," which was presented at the Athens Institute for Education and Research's Annual International Conference on Education in Athens, Greece in May.

Shelly Tochluk, education department chair, presented "Teaching to Witness: Fostering White Antiracism on Campus" at the Association of Independent Schools of New England's conference in Boston in December 2008.

Laurie Wright-Garry, assistant professor of religious studies, presented "Race, Ethnicity and Pedagogy" at the College Theology Society Annual Convention at Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I., in June 2008.

Homecoming 2009: Welcome to 'La Dolce Vita'

All alums are invited to come back to the Mount on Saturday, Oct. 10, to partake of "La Dolce Vita" — the good life. This year the Alumnae Association is commemorating its 80th anniversary and to celebrate, we have launched our first travel program with a trip to Tuscany. In keeping with our coming Tuscan adventure, the College is celebrating Italy and "La Dolce Vita."

Homecoming activities throughout the day will include:

- Light lunch of ethnic foods provided by the student clubs
- Workshops (see right for details)
- Founders Day Liturgy celebrated by Father George O'Brien
- Reunions for the baccalaureate classes of '64, '69, '74, '79, '89, '94, '99, and '04, with a special recognition of the 25th Silver Anniversary Class of '84
- Celebration in the Circle with wine, Italian hors d'oeuvres, and music
- Reunion class photos
- Gathering of the Golden Grads for all classes from 1959 and earlier
- Gala Homecoming Dinner — "Celebrazione Italiano" for all alums followed by presentation of the 2009 Outstanding Alum and Rising Star Awards
- Cafe Italiano Bar featuring espresso, cappuccino and more for those who wish to linger and reminisce after dinner

For information about Homecoming 2009, please call 213.477.2767 or go to www.msmcalums.la.edu/Homecoming2009.

Homecoming Workshops

Facebook and Twitter: What Are They and Do I Need Them?
Presented by Romesh Fernando, director of online services, MSMC admission department — Expand your horizons with the latest communication tools and decide if the cutting edge is right for you.

Fiori Rustica
Presented by Leah Horrigan, owner of Flowers by Leah — Create a beautiful flower arrangement to take home using the rustic flowers of Italy's countryside: sunflowers, wild roses, lilies and poppies.

Get to Know Your Inner Poet
Presented by Robert Doud, professor emeritus, Pasadena City College philosophy department — Explore your inner resources for writing creatively and thinking poetically.

Buon Gusto!
Presented by Francisco Alvarez, executive chef, Bon Appétit Catering — Experiment with different olive oils, tomatoes, cheeses, breads and balsamic vinegars as you prepare your own bruschetta.

Classic Italian Cinema: Passion and Poetry
Presented by Tom Walla, instructor, English department — Learn how Italian movies mirror the striking contrasts that comprise the Italians: emotional, talkative, sentimental, poetic, surreal, loving, wildly funny and very human.

Sample the Arts and Music of Tuscany
Presented by Sister Teresita Espinosa, CSJ, chair of the music department — Renew your acquaintance with great artists and musicians as you view and listen to selections from the Tuscan region.

in brief

Alums, Students Unite to Serve
In March, Mount St. Mary's College hosted its third annual Invitation to Serve, an event joining students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the College in a day of service. More than 70 volunteers sorted food at the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank, prepared lunch at the Salvation Army's Samoshel Shelter, and planted trees around the Doheny Campus with Million Trees LA.

Student Art Displayed in State Capitol

Four Mount students displayed original artwork in March in the California State Capitol as part of the fourth annual Student Art Show hosted by the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. Participating students included: Yvette Castillo, a senior art major; Evelyn Mireles, a senior art and film major; Yoselin Ortiz, a senior art major; and Samantha Viloria, a freshman art and psychology major. MSMC is among 16 colleges and universities that participated. Shown is "Butterfly Mosaic" by Ortiz.

Students Attend Lobby Day at State Capitol

Seniors Nadine Vasquez (left) and Angela Larios (right) visited the California State Capitol in March to meet with legislators for Lobby Day, an annual event sponsored by the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. While in Sacramento, they met with Assemblyman Mike Davis and Senator Fran Pavley, as well as numerous education staff, to thank legislators for their support of Cal Grants and to speak about the importance of maintaining the Cal Grant program.

Clothesline Project Shines Light on Abuse
To help give voice to women affected by violence, Mount students designed and displayed scores of anti-violence T-shirts at both Chalon and Doheny in February. The T-shirts were hung on clotheslines as part of the worldwide Clothesline Project.

Mount Nursing Student Wins Award
Daniela Dominguez, a student in the Master of Science in Nursing program, along with several colleagues from Los Angeles County's Immunization Program, won the Outstanding Poster Presentation award from the Los Angeles County Public Health Nursing Department. The poster, "Improving Vaccine Storage and Handling Practices: The New Public Health Emergency," was presented at the county's 26th Annual Public Health Nursing Practice Conference in May.

Students Learn Business Sense
This spring, the Mount continued its speaker series, The Vantage Point, sponsored by the business administration department. Speakers included two female executives: Michele Rhilinger '75, a vice president of Weyerhaeuser, a Fortune 500 company in Seattle; and Ricarda Perez, CEO of Ricarda Couture Designs.

Students Win Best Witness Honors

Two Mount pre-law students took best witness honors at a February regional American Mock Trial Association competition in Rancho Cucamonga. Senior Ezra Azzopardi and sophomore Chloe Long won the awards in competition with more than 200 students from colleges and universities throughout California, Arizona and Utah. "It was my first time competing and I was terrified the entire weekend," said Long, a political science major. "We had great coaches, and by the end of the weekend I was thinking, 'I could do this again.'"

Students Play Key Role in El Salvador's Election

Six Mount students served as impartial polling observers on Election Day this March in El Salvador. The students, who traveled with assistant professors Lia Roberts of political science and Laurie Wright-Garry of religious studies, worked in three cities: San Salvador, San Pedro and Sesuntepeque. "The point of this trip is for students to recognize the importance of elections and handovers of presidential power," Roberts said. "If you don't have an election that people believe in, then your democracy has a tendency not to have legitimacy."

Filmmaker Brings Documentary 'Fuel' to the Mount

Activist and filmmaker Josh Tickell screened his award-winning documentary "Fuel" at the Mount in February. "Fuel," which received the Best Documentary Audience Award at the 2008 Sundance film festival, tracks the rising domination of the petrochemical industry and reveals a gamut of available solutions to "repower America."

CSJs Celebrate Anniversaries

The Mount congratulates the following sisters on their 2009 jubilee anniversaries. Those celebrating 60 years include: Sister Patricia Arnold '56, Sister Jeanne Anne Cacioppo '54, Sister Therese Donahue '55, Sister Barbara Dugan '53, Sister Rose Dolores Fregin '52, Sister Miriam Therese Larkin '53, Sister Leo Francis O'Callaghan '47, Sister Margaret O'Rourke, and Sister Marie Weber. Those celebrating 50 years include: Sister Celia DuRea '99, Sister Judith Murphy, Sister Maureen O'Connor '63, Sister Loraine Polacci '59, Sister Patricia Rose Shanahan '67, Sister Francis Xavier Shimotsuma, and Sister Linda Snow '63.

MSMC Joins in 16th Annual REVLON Run/Walk

This May, 30 members of the Mount community joined as a team to raise $2,500 to find a cure for women's cancers at the 16th annual REVLON Run/Walk for Women Los Angeles. The 5K event, held in the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum at Exposition Park, brought out thousands of participants. The event has distributed nearly $55 million over the past 15 years for medical research.

MBA Class Donates Books to Chinese University

When the first class of Mount St. Mary's MBA program takes their 10-day field study trip to China this August, they will bring with them over 100 books on business. The books, in English, will be donated to Gannan Normal University in Gannan, China. "English and business education are two fields in China that are growing exponentially," says Katherine Whitman '63, associate professor of business. "Because of this rapid growth, there is a severe shortage of English books in business subjects." The book project will continue with future MBA field study trips.

Mount Students Aid Cancer Patients

This April, 46 Mount students and staff donated 318 inches of hair as part of a Make the Cut event benefiting cancer patients. Each participant clipped as much as 10 inches from her hair to help the organizations Beautiful Locks and Locks of Love make wigs. "My cousin has lymphoma, and I've been in the hospital cancer wards with him and seen young children going through chemotherapy," said freshman Amber Tucker. "I decided I can do this one small thing that might make a big difference in someone's life."

MSMC Spirit Wear Available Online

Want to get a new Mount St. Mary's College sweatshirt, coffee mug or diploma frame? The College bookstore has a new website where alums and friends of the College can order merchandise. To visit, go to www.msmc.la.edu/bookstore, and click on either the Chalon or Doheny Campus links.

New Minors for English Majors

The Department of English will now offer two new minors: journalism and creative writing. Course offerings include Basic Journalism and Poetry Writing. "Our goal is to show students that you can make money with an English major," said Marcos Villatoro, professor of English and the Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair of Writing. "Students can get a solid foundation in publishing, editing, radio, newspapers, magazines and television through our program."

Former Child Soldier Speaks at Doheny

The Mount's Film and Social Justice program teamed up with the Human Rights Watch Student Task Force in April to present a first-person talk by Madeleine, a former child soldier from the Democratic Republic of Congo, at Doheny. Madeleine, who served as the African delegate to the United Nations for the Red Hand Day campaign, spoke on "My Life as a Child Soldier: Conversations About the Power of Hope and Rehabilitation." Also speaking was Madeleine's sponsor, Bukeni Waruzi, who heads a rehabilitation center for child soldiers in the eastern region of Congo.

FUN FACTS

At the Mount St. Mary's College Libraries

The libraries at the Chalon and Doheny campuses offer students a wealth of resources, including online materials. Here is a closer look:

5,000,000
print book titles available via Link +

37,700
online books available via Ebrary Academic Complete

27,955
journal titles available via subscription database

7,253
online books available via NetLibrary

2,200
online books available via Humanities E-Book

ROLE

Jose Garcia (left) and Erika Bryant (right) talk with Mount Student Ambassador Angela Larios (center) at St. Monica Catholic High School in Santa Monica, Calif.

Photo: Glenn Marzano

MODELS *for* HIGHER LEARNING

Mount St. Mary's student ambassadors inspire L.A. youths to go beyond high school.

By Yvonne Villarreal

Briana Ramirez and Troy Harrington, both seniors at Santa Monica High School, recently spent an afternoon at a local community center, searching the Internet for college scholarships. Thousands of results appeared on the computer screen, making the confusing process even more daunting.

But nearby was a walking, talking college resource, ready to answer their questions. Three afternoons a week, Pamela Flores, 21, can be found at the Santa Monica Police Activities League, a community outreach center for children and teens, where she works as a student ambassador from Mount St. Mary's College.

The college's outreach program, launched in 1991, works to encourage students in the greater Los Angeles area to complete high school and aspire to attend college.

The program is an attempt to combat a troubling reality in the county's school system.

For the 2006-07 academic year, the most recent year for which data is available, L.A. County reported a high school graduation rate of 76.1 percent, even lower than the statewide figure of 80.6 percent, according to the state Department of Education.

But the Mount St. Mary's ambassadors, who number 46 this year, dedicate hours of their time to improve those numbers and boost college entry among the students with whom they work.

The program, which is funded through private donations, community organizations and education foundations, helps more than 7,000 students enroll in college each year, said Bernadette Robert, the program's administrator.

"It gives kids a more direct connection to someone who is already out there in college," she said. "Our student ambassadors know what the college process is like, and they see themselves in the students they help."

The students they work with are encouraged to apply to the college of their choosing, whether that's Mount St. Mary's or somewhere else.

"We just want them to consider college," Robert said. "We don't care where, as long as it's a right fit for them."

Photo: Mel Melcon

Mount senior Pamela Flores (center) helps Santa Monica High School students Brianna Ramirez (left) and Troy Harrington (right) apply for college scholarships.

Many of the ambassadors are assigned to schools in their home communities — sometimes at schools they've once attended — and are expected to work with students for 12-15 hours per week, in exchange for a stipend. Others help students at local community outreach centers.

"I had the passion to go to college and took the initiative to seek out the information necessary to pursue it," said Yoselin Munoz, 22, an ambassador stationed at Downtown Value, an elementary school in Los Angeles. "But not every kid has the passion. If more information is put out for them, and if they get the encouragement to see the possibilities, they'd be more inclined to apply themselves."

The student ambassadors offer their charges guidance in selecting the right high school courses to meet higher education requirements. They also help students fill out the often time-consuming and complex financial aid forms, sort through piles of college pamphlets and construct the well-written personal statement that is required by many colleges.

"It's nice to have someone around who knows how frustrating it can be," said Harrington, who has applied to Cal State Northridge and Menlo College, a private school in the Bay Area. He wants to study sports medicine.

Although open to everyone, the ambassadors program targets high school students not in the top 5 percent of their class — students who may have the ambition but not necessarily the financial ability or the grades to achieve their goals.

"It's important for the majority of high school students who don't perceive they're good enough," Robert said. "They're the ones that need somebody to say 'hey, this is something you can do.'"

For many of the ambassadors, the chance to help others like them is what keeps them returning, in some cases for years.

"I didn't receive as much help as other students at my high school," said Flores, a nursing major who has been an ambassador for three years. "It was up to me to learn about the process, and I didn't think that was fair. This is my chance to help others who are like me." ⚜

Student Ambassador Program Community Partner and High School Sites

Mount St. Mary's College student ambassadors served at the following locations during the 2008-2009 academic year.

A Place Called Home
Alexandria House
Bell High School
Belmont High School
Bravo Medical Magnet
Culver City High School
Dorsey High School
Downtown Business Magnet
Downtown Value School
Fairfax High School
Franklin High School
Fremont High School
Garfield High School
Hamilton High School
Hollywood High School
Inglewood High School
Jefferson High School
Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies
Lincoln High School
Lynwood High School
Manual Arts High School
Nimitz Middle School
North Hollywood High School
Roosevelt High School
San Fernando High School
Santa Monica High School
Santa Monica Police Activities League
Santa Teresita School
South Gate High School
St. Mary's Academy
St. Monica's Elementary
St. Joseph's Center
St. Vincent's School
Thomas Riley High School
Venice High School
Westchester High School
Wilson High School

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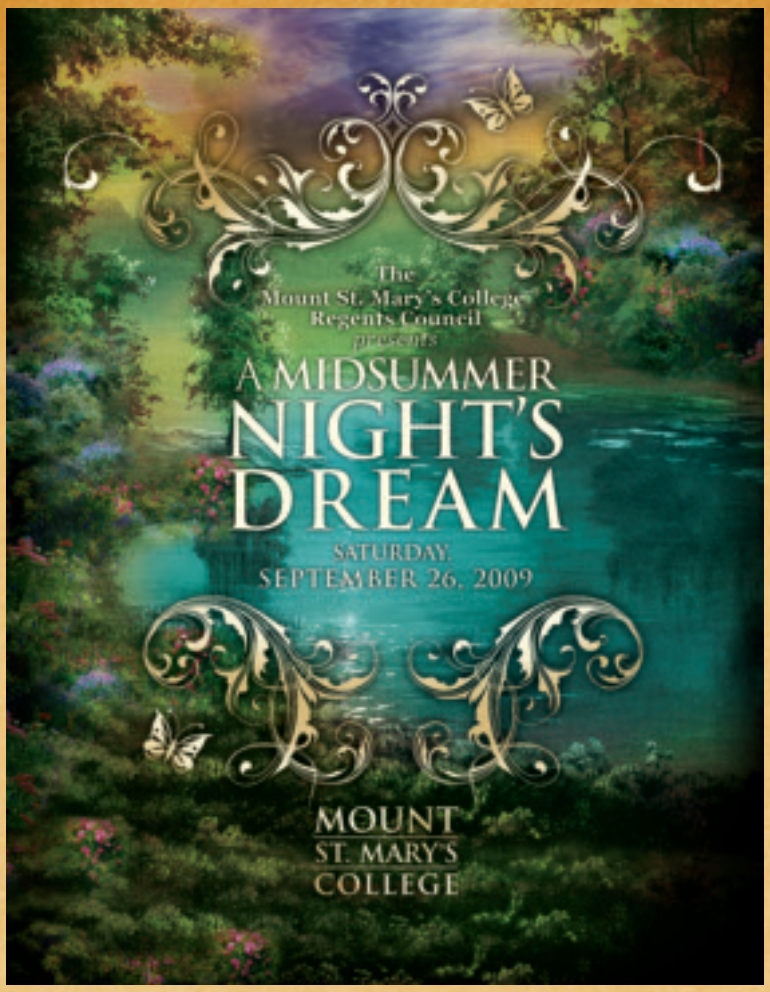

Join us at the Doheny Mansion for a magical night of dinner, dance and special festivities and to honor Kathleen H. Aikenhead, president of the William H. Hannon Foundation.

There are many ways you can support this exciting fundraiser:

Individual Ticket $250
Single Table (10 seats) $2,500

SPONSORSHIPS*

Diamond Title Sponsor $50,000
Platinum Title Sponsor $25,000
Gold Sponsor $10,000
Silver Sponsor $5,000
Bronze Sponsor $3,000
**Sponsorship packages include numerous benefits*

ONLINE TRIBUTE *(deadline August 31)*

Half Gold Page $2,500
Half Silver Page $1,500
Half Bronze page $1,000
Quarter Page $500
Special Listing $100
Student Listing $10

Ready to get your ticket or become a sponsor?
Have an item or service you can donate to the silent auction?
Contact Karen Butler, director of special events, at 213.477.2761 or kbutler@msmc.la.edu.

All proceeds will benefit the Mount Student Ambassador program.

Special Education: Teaching From the Heart

BY DENIS FAYE

With statewide demand for special education teachers increasing, Mount St. Mary's College is rising to the challenge to prepare compassionate, competent educators for our most vulnerable students.

All eyes are on special education teacher Kathy Morones '09M as she flows back and forth in front of the dry-erase board of her Bella Vista Elementary School classroom. Her former life as a production manager at a major payroll company and her current life as a mother of three have taught her how to blend authority and empathy. When it comes to her special needs students, the two qualities synchronize perfectly, thanks to her Mount St. Mary's College education. She knows just what to do and when. Constant engagement keeps attention deficit disorders at bay. Reassuring touches calm autistic nerves.

She runs the kids — "my friends" she calls them — through a drill concerning the week's California standardized testing. She asks for words that describe how they feel about the state-mandated exams. Answers range from "horrible" to "tricky" to "weird." She transcribes all this on the board and then asks her friends to write a sentence using these words. An exercise in self-expression turns into a grammar lesson. The kids eat it up.

Out of nowhere, Michelle, a friendly third-grader sitting in the front row blurts out, "I was student of the month in my normal class!"

"That's great," replies Morones calmly, "but it's not what we're talking about." Part of Morones' job is to clue students in to appropriate classroom and social behavior.

It's not a mean response, but it hits Michelle in a bad place. Her shoulders drop, her lower lip juts out. Her overreaction proves a sharp reminder that this is, indeed, a special education class.

Without skipping a beat, Morones moves close to Michelle and beams, "Next time we meet, I want you to stand up and tell us all about it." Michelle beams. That's all it took.

Surging Demand

As general education teachers across the country face lay-offs, demand for those like Morones who are trained in special education is on the rise. According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, this growing demand means that the number of special education teachers in the workforce is expected to rise 15 percent from 2006 to 2016.

Instances of identified disabilities, including specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairments, emotional disturbance disorders, and developmental delays, are on the rise. Nationwide, children with specific learning disabilities alone have increased from 1.5 million in 1980-81 to 2.8 million in 2003-04.

There are several theories as to why this is happening, but the prevailing wisdom says the numbers aren't actually changing. It's just that more cases are being identified. "We have more informed families than ever before and society is more supportive of diagnosing and treating individuals with

Photos: Carlos Puma

Beginning Digraphs
Ending Digraphs

disabilities," explains Bob Farran, director of Southwest Special Education Local Plan Area (Southwest SELPA), a branch of the organization charged with coordinating special education's complex machinations for California's schools. "We've also broadened the categories of disabilities at the federal level," he adds.

Additionally, it's a matter of acceptance, says Kimmie Tang, director of special education in the Mount's education department. "It's no longer a stigma," she says. "As a result of that, more parents are coming out and saying, 'Maybe my child is autistic.'"

Then there are more controversial theories regarding the increase. The No Child Left Behind Act and standardized testing have put increased burdens on educators. According to some, this burden is occasionally handed off to the special education teachers. "We get a number of students referred (to special education) that could have been served in a different way," Farran says, "The category of students with a learning disability is an example. Some of these learners could have improved their skills via a research-based intervention rather than waiting to fail and then receiving special education services."

Kimmie Tang, director of special education

Farran isn't alone in criticizing this "wait to fail" approach. "They've not been given support or help, so they're suddenly identified as special needs students," says David Seiler, who teaches a special day class at Gabrielino High School in San Gabriel, Calif. — his alma mater — while seeking his preliminary teaching credential at the Mount. "The majority of my classes are these students, but there's a shift now because they're being identified a lot earlier along, so as they grow and progress, hopefully we catch them up and we can exit them from the program."

Farran agrees. "Districts are starting to increase the amount of interventions for struggling learners. In a few years this may actually decrease the number of students in the learning disability category."

Morones, who earned her master's degree in education, with an emphasis in special education, from the Mount this spring, works with the "pull-out" model of special education. Her students typically spend one or two hours with her, four days a week. The rest of the time, they are in classrooms with the general education students. This model makes her role largely collaborative, thus giving her a strong understanding of general education teachers' plight. "The relationship I have with the general education teachers is that of trying to be of service to them," she says.

"You need to be a collaborator since the process involves lots of other professionals," Farran points out. He also feels it's especially important to communicate with parents. "They did not plan on having a child with a disability. It just happens, so you need to see the world through the parent's eyes to fully understand."

A New Vision

While isolated classes and non-public schools do exist for high-needs students, the current thinking is that mild or moderate needs students should integrate into the general student population as much as possible. After all, education isn't just about academics. It's about learning to be a community member. "In our society, social networking is key," explains Tang. "If these kids don't learn that in school, it's going to be harsh when they grow up."

In 1990, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) set this thinking into law. It was a sweeping set of reforms that opened up special education to millions of students. "It had a huge impact on the education field," Tang says. "It lessened the whole idea of general educators and special educators saying 'this is your student' or 'this is my student.' It opened up cooperation and broke down the walls."

IDEA, which has been expanded and reauthorized many times since its inception, may have done a great amount of good, but it also helped evolve special education into a complex field.

When a student is identified as having special needs, the first step is to determine his or her Individualized Education Program (IEP). The next step is for parents and educators to decide how a school's general and special education programs can best help the child. Placement depends on the severity of a student's needs. In any particular school, the possibilities might include:

- *The Consultation Model*. Students remain in the general classes while their general education teachers consult with a special education teacher.
- *The Pull-out Model.* As is the case with Morones' class, students, usually at the primary school level, are pulled out of class for a few hours each day to work with a special education teacher.
- *The Special Day Class Model.* Typical of high schools,

Photos: Carlos Puma

Mount St. Mary's Special Education Career Paths

Given the diverse range of people looking for a career in special education, the Mount offers a variety of degree and certification options.

Undergraduates can earn a Special Education Mild and Moderate Preliminary Teaching Credential by enrolling in the education department's "3-in-5" undergraduate program. Over five years, they'll receive their:

- Bachelor's degree
- Elementary or Secondary Preliminary General Education Teaching Credential
- Special Education Mild and Moderate Preliminary Teaching Credential

The graduate program offers:

- A Preliminary K-12 Mild and Moderate Special Education Teaching Credential
- A Professional K-12 Mild and Moderate Special Education Teaching Credential
- A master's degree in education, with an emphasis in special education
- An internship program

The Mount's special education credential programs are set up so that students simultaneously earn master's degree units. This means that once they receive their credential, they're only 6 units short of a master's degree in special education. The department also offers an Internship Credential program to qualified candidates, which allows them to teach full time as they earn their credential at the Mount on nights and weekends.

The program's small size allows students to customize their program to suit their needs. Prospective students should contact Kimmie Tang, director of special education, at 213.477.2627 for an advisement appointment to discuss which program is right for them.

students take a combination of special education classes and general education classes. In the case of Seiler's school, students take three periods of each.

- *The Non-Public School Model.* These are schools for students with severe disabilities or emotional issues.
- *The Residential School Model.* The most isolating option. Given IDEA's preference for inclusion, non-public and residential schools are only used when absolutely necessary.

Part of the reason for this dynamic structure is that even the educators and legislators governing the process are students of the discipline. "We are still learning about disability," admits Farran. So to prepare for the field, potential educators must receive a solid education themselves. "The curriculum must reflect a willingness to stay current. The more you have the opportunity to visit, observe and work with students as part of your teacher training, the better."

An example of this would be the Mount's Internship Credential Program, which allows students to start their teaching career in special education during the day while studying for their degree at night and on weekends. Both Morones and Seiler took advantage of this program. In fact, Morones' efforts to help her Bella Vista students improve their oral reading skills became the basis for "Timed Repeated Reading," her master's degree project.

In 1970, the College began offering an emphasis in special education in the master's of education program. Since then, the curriculum has continued to evolve and grow, most notably with the August 2008 addition of Tang, who came to the Mount with ten years' experience in the field and a doctor of education from the University of Southern California. She kicked off her arrival with an autism symposium this March attended by over 200 parents, professors, school psychologists and other guests.

Personalized Attention

Today, the Mount offers small classes, intense instructor-to-student interaction, and flexibility for people seeking an undergraduate or master's degree in K-12 mild to moderate special education. "Our courses do have small enough groups of students so that we can give very individualized attention, make sure all questions are answered, and work hard to make sure that each candidate is able to successfully complete the program," explains Shelly Tochluk, chair of the Mount's education department.

Students come to the Mount for all kinds of reasons. Morones picked the program because she found bigger universities "catered more to the traditional undergraduate students who went to school during the day." She also says other programs were too independent, a euphemism for not teaching enough.

Seiler chose the Mount because the program only includes 28 to 30 students, so Tang and her adjunct professors can give each candidate plenty of interaction. "I think it's the collaboration between the professors and the students," he says.

> "I see the uniqueness of each individual in special needs and I hate to see that uniqueness being wasted. I feel that if you find that strength and use that strength, they can master anything."
> — Kimmie Tang, director of special education

The decision to enter the field also means job security for Morones and Seiler. Special education teachers in California make somewhere in the neighborhood of $60,000 annually, according to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

But to be successful in this field, the motivation must be focused on helping children.

People come to special education from all walks of life. Some, like Seiler, are already educators. Others, such as Morones, come from another career. What unifies them all is their passion. As Morones puts it, they are "advocates for the children."

"There is something in a special education teacher that is a bit different in terms of a particular empathy and dedication," concurs Tochluk. "If it's not going to fill them with joy to work with special education students, it's not a good fit."

On more than one occasion, Tang has actually dissuaded potential students. "I've asked, 'Why are you looking into this field?'" she says. "If they say, 'Well, you know, I can guarantee myself a job,' that's not going to cut it."

Tang herself got into the field because, as a 9-year-old Cambodian immigrant, her initial lack of English skills caused her to be considered special needs.

"I was treated differently and that had a profound effect on me," explains Tang.

"I see the uniqueness of each individual in special needs and I hate to see that uniqueness being wasted," she says. "I feel that if you find that strength and use that strength, they can master anything."

She then pauses and blushes slightly. "That may sound a little bit cheesy, but it's a personal belief." ⚜

Mount Donors Support Student Scholarships

Each year, students at Mount St. Mary's College receive scholarship support to help provide for their education. For the donors who fund these scholarships, the motivation to give is often very personal.

"My late wife, Gloria (Left) Scanlon '62, received a scholarship that allowed her to attend the Mount," says Brian Scanlon. "Without it, she wouldn't have been able to go to college." To honor Gloria's memory, Scanlon established both an endowed scholarship and an expendable scholarship in her name. "I wanted the money to go to young women who are majoring in the fine arts, like Gloria did."

An endowed scholarship continues in perpetuity, enabling one or more students to benefit annually from the donor's generosity through the fund's earnings. Expendable scholarships make an immediate impact because the entire gift must be distributed during the year in which it is given.

Together with her family, Pam Smith established the Sister Maura Jean Parsons Music Scholarship in memory of her late aunt who worked at the College. "We decided to establish a scholarship in our aunt's memory because she inspired us to reach for our goals," said Smith.

For more information on establishing a scholarship, contact Lois Dunne, director of major gifts, at 213.477.2534.

Students Receive Globetrotter Grants to See the World

Sophomore Kenza Banoza and senior Nanette Cáceres have been awarded the first Globetrotter Grants, a new travel grant program started by Peggy Amante '56. The program is designed to help college students explore the world.

Senior Nanette Cáceres (left) and sophomore Kenza Banoza (right) were awarded the first Globetrotter Grants this spring.

Banoza, an English major with a minor in art history, will spend her junior year studying art history at the University of Salzburg in Austria. Nanette Cáceres, a Spanish and gerontology double major, headed to the other side of the world to work in Honduran medical clinics this summer with an independent agency called Amerispan.

Both women submitted an essay about their plans, and were interviewed by a committee of alums and members of the Amante family before being chosen. To find out more, visit www.globetrottergrant.com. For information on establishing a travel grant, contact Paul Craft '03, vice president of institutional advancement, at 213.477.2766.

Seniors Support Future Athenians

The Class of 2009 presented President Jacqueline Powers Doud with their Senior Gift to the College at the Senior Farewell Dinner in May. They set a new record with 34 percent of seniors participating. The students designated their gift to the Mount Fund, which supports tuition assistance for the next generation of Athenians.

At the dinner, it was announced that the gift would be matched 2-to-1 thanks to the generosity of President Jacqueline Powers Doud; her husband, Robert Doud; and Paul Craft '03, vice president of institutional advancement. Seniors were thrilled to know that their gift will have three times the impact on future students.

MSMC Awarded Competitive Wal-Mart Grant

Mount St. Mary's has been selected by the Institute for Higher Education Policy to receive a Wal-Mart Minority Student Success Award — a $100,000 grant to help build on the Mount's success in enrolling, retaining and graduating first-generation college students.

The Mount was one of only 15 institutions selected nationwide. With the grant, the College will create a learning community composed of faculty who teach courses critical to first-generation student success at the institution. Faculty will partner with students and collaborate with students' families to improve classroom success.

"Over Ventura Boulevard"
Ilana Bloch

The works shown here are from a recent exhibition "Insight/Inside LA," at the José Drudis-Biada Art Gallery, located on the Chalon Campus at Mount St. Mary's College. The exhibition presented a visual history of Los Angeles art over the last 35 years, including pieces from artists who have shown in the gallery since its inception. ⚜

"Self Portrait"
Midge Lynn

"Western Exterminator"
Barbara Thomason

"Horn Holder"
Cecilia Z. Miguez

"Bells"
Mitchell Friedman

"Destroy the Destroyers"
Samantha Fields

"Fecund Encounter"
Sue Dirksen

alum community

welcome

Join your fellow classmates to live "La Dolce Vita" (the good life), to remember your days at the Mount as students and to experience the joys of reconnecting today. On October 10, at Homecoming, we will celebrate reunions for the baccalaureate classes of 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, and the Silver Anniversary Class of 1984. Give your classmates a call or e-mail them — encourage them to attend. Alumnae Relations will provide you with the contact information. We do all the work and you have all the fun! Interested? Contact Alumnae Relations at 213.477.2767.

The Golden Grads of 1959 celebrate at the Baccalaureate Mass, May 2009.

class notes

'40

Colette (Verbeck) Regan was recently named Volunteer of the Year by the Toberman Neighborhood Center, located in San Pedro, Calif. In addition, she received a commendation for her volunteer work from President Obama. She has been recognized for her work as chair of the Parade of Christmas Trees, recruitment of guest speakers and of corporate donations, and as an artist who donates her pieces.

'46

Gertrude (Cramer) Stimson and her husband celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on a 10-day cruise along the Baja California peninsula and into the Sea of Cortez.

'51

Mary Ellen (Gray) Delagrange and her daughter enjoyed a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2008. They visited the cities of Petra and Jerash in Jordan, Nazareth and Jerusalem in Israel, and Bethlehem.

Gerri (Biggs) McGrath attended an art show at Mount St. Mary's in March in which her daughter, Nora (McGrath) Warren '82, was one of the featured artists.

'55

Mary Ellen (Breen) Rowe turned 75 last July. She celebrated at a party hosted by her children and grandchildren and at a luncheon with 12 friends.

'56

Alison (MacDonald) Riggs had her article, "Looking Back at a Leader — Sister Rebecca Doan, A Nurse Who Changed the Profession," published in the May 4 – June 22 issue of Working Nurse magazine.

'57

Myra (Pestana) Silversparre is enjoying retirement from the Pasadena Health Department as a public health nurse. She and her husband travel frequently to Maui and the Pine Mountain Club in Kern County, Calif. She is active in the Pioneer Club at Holy Redeemer Church in Montrose, Calif. She hopes her husband will join her in retirement, which will allow them to travel in their new motor home.

'58

Beverly (Brace) Akiona traveled to Pasadena, Calif., for the Rose Bowl game with one of her grandsons.

Josette Temple was the Grand Marshall at the 65th Annual Temple City Camellia Day Parade and was honored for serving the community of Temple City, Calif., in February 2009. She is the granddaughter of the founder of Temple City, Walter Paul Temple Sr.

'61

Linda (Cox) Stellern and her husband are going to visit Oahu and Maui for a week each to celebrate their 70th and 75th birthdays.

'62

Rose Marie (Lemus) Brockman and her husband recently retired and closed their counseling agency. They look forward to traveling and visiting their son and his family. They welcomed their first grandchild in May 2008.

Celeste (Hendrick) Farnsworth is in regular contact with fellow classmates **Maryann Dobbs**, **Joan (Kendall) Tornay**, **Mitzi (Muth) Logan**, and **Madelyn Flaherty.**

Mary (Erschoen) Morris moved to Colorado last year to be closer to her son and three grandchildren. She is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Denver's Korbel Institute,

teaching Middle East Politics. She is also on the Advisory Board of the Denver World Affairs Council.

'64

Michelle (Pierrong) Klepper traveled throughout Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Burma. While in Thailand, she took a one-hour elephant ride through the jungle. She and her husband celebrated his 80th birthday at Club Med in Ixtapa, Mexico, and were joined by 13 of their children and grandchildren. They love living in the Sarasota, Fla., area, playing tennis and golf each day and being involved in the community arts.

Anne (Splingaerd) Megowan organized a family reunion in Ottenburg, Belgium. She then traveled to Fribourg, Switzerland, where she spent her junior year abroad, and on to Egypt to see the pyramids. Finally, she visited her daughter in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. In April she joined fellow Brady Hall classmates at the home of **Anna Chavez** for their annual mini-reunion. **Emily (Ragusa) Avila '66**, **Yolanda (Araiza) Braunagel '66**, **Susie (Klute) Foley '66**, and **Erleen (Silva) Ramirez '66** attended.

'67

Marline Radovcich retired from the Palos Verdes School District after 40 years of teaching. She taught primary grades, and spent 31 years teaching kindergarten. She is looking forward to traveling, being with friends and deciding new goals.

'69

Jeanne (Burnham) Black has directed the choir at Holy Cross Mission Church in Cross City, Fla., for seven years. She looks forward to exercising in her karate class — a nice change from her desk job at the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Veronica (Leon) Welch traveled to Hong Kong, Macau, and South Korea in August and September of 2008 to visit all of the religious sisters who taught her while she attended boarding school abroad.

Alums from the 1980s enjoy arrangements they made in the "Fun with Florals" Homecoming 2008 workshop. For a list of this year's workshops, see page 6.

Reunion Alert — Oct. 10, 2009

Who: Reunions this year are for the Classes of 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004 — with special attention to the Silver Anniversary Class of 1984, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary!

When: Reunions will be celebrated at Homecoming 2009 on Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Chalon Campus.

Volunteer Opportunity: Join your Class Reunion Committee and encourage your classmates to attend. To help make your reunion a success, contact Jeanne Ruiz '63, director of alumnae relations, at 213.477.2769 or jruiz@msmc.la.edu.

'73

Debra (Bouchard) Hayes works as an academic advisor in San Diego for the University of Maryland University College. She is finishing the final courses for her master's degree in French literature at San Diego State University, where she will teach her first class this fall. She and her husband, Stan, celebrated their 32nd anniversary in June.

'74

Kristine (Klumph) Bounds continues work as an emergency room nurse and babysits her first grandson in her spare time.

Mary Ann (Medon) Lucia is managing the obstetrical unit at Martha Jefferson Hospital in Charlottesville, Va. She and her husband celebrated their 36th anniversary. Their five children are grown, and now they enjoy their five grandsons.

'75

Alice Gardello attended the World Congress of Reading meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, in the summer of 2008, and then went on a 10-day tour of the country with a group of educators.

'81

Michelle (Rice) Trotter has been promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Army. She was placed on active duty at Walter Reed Army Medical Center on January 20, 2009 — Inauguration Day. She still teaches skiing.

Become A Doheny Docent

Mount St. Mary's College is the guardian of Chester Place and the Doheny Mansion, located on the College's downtown campus. In January, 2003, Don and Mary Sloper '62 launched the Doheny Docents for the purpose of training volunteers to host tours. Docents learned about the Doheny family, the history of Los Angeles, and information about the small enclave of homes and their famous occupants.

Thirty docents host private and public tours of Chester Place and the interior of the Doheny Mansion. Doheny Docents also serve as ambassadors at official College events held in the mansion. The docents have diverse interests and backgrounds. Many docents are graduates of the College, while others are members of docent organizations throughout Los Angeles, including the Getty Museum, the Gamble House and the Da Camara Society. In 2008, Doheny Docents greeted over 400 guests.

"Visiting the College regularly and hosting tours is a thrilling experience," says Mary Ann (Strouts) Ammons '67, chair of the docents. "It's also a grounding experience that allows me to return to my roots."

To learn more about becoming a docent, please visit www.dohenymansion.org, and click on Become a Docent. The next docent training session will begin on Saturday, Sept. 19, and continue every Saturday through Oct. 24. Training will not occur on Saturday, Oct. 10.

Nomi (Roth) Elbert is doing an internship in the oncology/hematology department at Sharei Tzedek Hospital in Israel as part of her chaplaincy/spiritual counseling program.

'86

Karin (Breitenstein) Cox and her husband celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary by taking a Panama Canal cruise.

'87

Gayne Pinto is excited about her new career path. After 19 years in the pharmaceutical industry, she has become California Loan certified, California State Life and Long Term Care Insurance licensed and holds both a Series 6 and Series 63 Securities license. She will be working with Primerica Financial Services.

'89

Tracy (Bower) Cartwright has been a physical therapist for 20 years and enjoys working in an outpatient orthopedic clinic. She has two sons and resides in San Diego.

'93

Jacqueline (DeMarco) McCarter is midway through the doctoral program in counseling psychology at Argosy University in San Diego.

'94

Ann (Summers) Hirsch, an adjunct professor at the University of Denver and a math resources coordinator for the Littleton, Colo., school district, recently co-authored the math section for Barron's "ACT 36 — Aiming for the Perfect Score," a test preparation manual.

'96

Alejandra Ceja is working on service legislation to help strengthen programs like AmeriCorps, Learn & Serve and Service Corps to increase service opportunities for disadvantaged youth.

Cynthia Moreno-Estrada and her husband are happily awaiting the arrival of their first child this summer.

'97

Margarita Rivera is newly engaged to Silvestre Regalado.

'98

Paula D. Gardner retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 2006 and relocated to Round Rock, Texas in 2008.

Elizabeth (Guevara) Kelemen is working as a school nurse in Nevada's only K-12 Jewish private school. This is the first year the school has had a school nurse.

'99

Sarah (Conger) Walker is teaching social studies at Godinez Fundamental High School in Santa Ana, Calif.

'00

Francis Jacobo reported in Buenos Aires, Argentina, for Clarin, a daily paper, during the fall of 2008 and is currently doing social work for Para Los Niños, a non-profit organization in Los Angeles.

Carolina Linares attended the "We Are One" concert at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., which was the opening ceremony for the presidential inauguration.

Jeannette Mancilla-Martinez recently began working as a tenure-track assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where her appointment is in language, literacy and culture. Her primary research interest is the language and literacy of "at risk" populations, including students who struggle with reading and language minority learners.

Daisy Pizana is the president of the Southeast Los Angeles Young Democrats and ran for the position of the 58th Assembly District Delegate for the California Democratic Party.

'03

Lovelyn Marquez-Pucher recently published her memoir, "A Journey Toward Understanding and Acceptance" in "Golden Journey," a collection of short stories. She is also one of two recipients of the 2008 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Early Career Teacher of Color Award of Distinction. She received the award at the NCTE convention in San Antonio, Texas.

Leticia Rosales just completed her first year as a fifth grade teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

'04

Gina Zambetti is looking forward to her wedding in September and enjoys her work as a nurse practitioner at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles.

Family Ties

Charlene (Rule) Wilkinson '58 and her grandson, Kris Hodgins, a current student in the MBA program, enjoy sampling the wines at the Annual Alumnae Wine Tasting in March.

two by two

The Alumnae Association extends best wishes to the following alums and their spouses:

'93 Jacqueline DeMarco to Bruce McCarter
'98 Esperanza Lopez to Freddy Monay
'99 Theresa Aceves to Juan Carlos Vazquez
'99 Sarah Conger to David Walker
'99 Anna Intharathut to Ryan Stern
'03 Elsa Pazmino to Roger G. Hunt

by-lines

The Alumnae Association extends congratulations to the following alums and their spouses on the birth of their children:

'94 Kayla Ayleen to Karen (Villanueva) Corletto, 2nd child, 2nd daughter
'97 Marielle Alora Inigo Esteban to Maricar Inigo, 2nd child, 1st daughter
'97 Simone Keiko Santo to Dominika Osmolska, 1st child
'98 Violet Daisy to Elizabeth (Guevara) Kelemen, 3rd child, 3rd daughter
'99 Magnus to Ruth (Racine) Tubbs
'00 Mason Andrew to Becky (Lysakovski) Johnson, 1st child
'03 Esteban Alonso to Lidia (Rodarte) Carrillo, 2nd child, 1st son
'03 Sofia Yamilet to Vanessa (Sevilla) Castellon

requiescant

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:

'37 Margaret (Donovan) Kelly
'41 Lynn (McClure) Davey
'47 Anita (Morrison) Durston
'51 Claire (Kassler) Gaffney
'51 Joyce (Devine) Lendl
'51 Mary (Schaefer) Welker
'53 Patricia (Bollig) Seymour
'54 sister of Kathleen (Higgins) Barela and Noreen (Higgins) Masterson '56
'55 Alicia (Wick) Feld
'57 Barbara (Darling) Mancuso
'57 grandson of Norma (Hopkins) Wallace
'58 Ann (Fabian) Stoffel
'59 son of Kathleen (McCoy) Wright
'62 husband of Yvonne (Priscu) Zellmer
'64 father of Cynthia (Galbraith) Buzan
'67 Altine Bentson
'69 Mary Kay (Deasy) Kast
'72 Jacqueline (Pierce) Weir
'77 Nancy (Brubaker) Rez
'78 mother of Mary (McEntee) Gosnell
'80 mother of Rachel (Guzman) Espinoza
'98 father of Elizabeth (Guevara) Kelemen
'98 husband of Sheena (Baillie) Ricchio

They will be remembered in the Masses, prayers and good works of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Mount community.

advanced degrees

The Alumnae Association congratulates the following alums for their successful pursuit of intellectual achievement:

'97 Dominika Osmolska, Psy.D., California Institute of Integral Studies, August 2009

'98 Elizabeth (Guevara) Kelemen, certified school nurse, March 2009

'00 Jeannette Mancilla-Martinez, Ed.D. in languages and literacy, Harvard Graduate School of Education, June 2009

'03 Lovelyn Marquez-Pucher, M.S. in education, California State University, Los Angeles, May 2007

'06 Francis Jacobo, M.S. in journalism, Columbia University, May 2008

'07 Emily Serna, M.S.W., University of Southern California, May 2009

NOTE: We are proud of all of our alums and are happy to showcase your academic achievements. Please let us know when you receive an advanced degree and include the date and the name of the institution granting the degree. In order to keep this feature current, please do not go back any further than four years or send information that has already appeared in Class Notes.

Brand New — the Alum Emergency Book Fund

The Alum Emergency Book Fund was recently established in response to students' growing need for assistance with the rising cost of textbooks. We all know how expensive textbooks have become. Sometimes students find themselves in financial difficulty after having arranged for tuition payments and other expenses. A grant from the Alum Book Fund can make a difference by helping them acquire the necessary books for the semester.

Any gift you make to this fund will be greatly appreciated. Not only will you be helping the students right now, but you will be sending a message that the Alumnae Association cares and wants to do what it can to help them. This is part of the Mount's mission to give back. Our hope is that when the students become alums themselves, they will remember the helping hand we gave them and wish to do the same for future students. If you wish to be a part of this venture, please log on to www.msmcalums.la.edu/alumbookfund.

Time is Running Out to Travel to Tuscany with Alums

The Alumnae Association is launching a travel program beginning this fall. Our inaugural trip will be to Tuscany, Italy, from Oct. 14-22, 2009. The cost is approximately $3,934 per person, based on double occupancy, including airfare and value-added tax. From the innovations of the Etruscans to the enlightenment of the Renaissance, Tuscany is a region steeped in history and human achievement. Visit Siena, Assisi, Florence and more. To see a pictorial of this Tuscany trip, log on to the AlumLine at www.msmcalums.la.edu and click on The Wonders of Tuscany. For more information or to make your reservation, contact Alumnae Relations at 213.477.2767.

Stay on the Cutting Edge
Log in to Mount AlumLine to:
- find out the latest alum activities
- RSVP to alum events
- update your personal information
- chat online
- make a gift to MSMC

To log in, go to www.msmcalums.la.edu; you will need your Alum ID#. You can find it directly above your name on the address panel of this magazine.

E-mail Update
Make sure we have your current e-mail address, so we can stay in touch.

Alumnae Legacy Grant
Alum offspring are entitled to a $1,000 grant, renewable every year upon enrolling at MSMC. It's an alumnae perk. To apply, contact Alumnae Relations.

Alum Privilege Card
You need this card to use the Mount fitness centers or libraries. Log in to AlumLine (Web address above) and click on Alum Privilege Card on the left navigation bar.

Enrichment Courses
You are entitled to audit one course a semester for personal enrichment at no charge. No credit will be given. Contact Alumnae Relations to get the audit waiver form.

Career Planning
Alums can get free career-planning advice by visiting the Career Center during regular hours either as a walk-in client or by appointment with a counselor. To search the center's online job listing, go to www.mountcareernetwork.com. You will need to complete an initial registration process.

Questions?
Call Alumnae Relations at 213.477.2767.

Teaching Hope Among the Ashes

By Jaye Houston

When individuals question why we still study the Holocaust, I reply, "Because we have only touched the tip of the iceberg when it comes to understanding good and evil and how it relates to issues of the common good."

It was more than 65 years ago that Anne Frank penned her personal experiences while hiding from the Third Reich. Recently, at the age of 89, Ukraine-born Ivan Demjanjuk was deported for the second time by U.S. officials because of accusations that he committed crimes against the Jews while serving as a Nazi death camp guard. The wheels of ethics and justice continue to turn, which signifies that we still grapple with issues of genocide in the twenty-first century.

This past January, I was selected to participate as a fellow at a seminar held at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. The topic was "The Holocaust and Other Genocides: Historical Contexts, Legal Issues, and Ethical Dilemmas." Some of the questions we explored included: Will genocide ever end? In what context do human rights exist in the midst of genocide? What happened to honoring the commandment "Thou shalt not kill?"

The seminar challenged my approach to teaching the comparative relationship between the Holocaust and other genocides to students in the Mount's Weekend College.

When Sister Mary McKay '67, the former chair of the religious studies department, hired me almost six years ago, she agreed that Weekend College students would greatly benefit from learning about the common good in relation to the Holocaust. I developed and taught a course, "Christianity in a Post-Holocaust World." The students, mostly Catholic, explored anti-Judaism, anti-Semitism, and the Holocaust, and were deeply moved by what they learned. Merrill Rodin, dean of the Weekend College, continues to support the teaching of genocide in the Weekend College curriculum.

Teaching about genocides is an invigorating and yet daunting task because of the highly complicated and emotionally and politically sensitive nature of the topic. Last year, I began to develop a new research project which addresses Darfur and rape. My research involved interviewing Sudanese female refugees who now live in Seattle. Their accounts were staggering.

When it comes to teaching my students about the genocide in Darfur, I believe it is important to address ambiguities of intent, the tragic case of what G.W. Hegel referred to as "the conflict between good versus good" in relation to the ethical actions of non-governmental and governmental agencies and faith-based organizations in Sudan.

My students this spring directly benefitted from what I learned at the Holocaust Museum as I applied my new understanding of the religious, ethical, and historical elements of genocides and their complexities to my new course, "Religions, Genocides, and Human Rights." Teaching adult students is a challenge because of their thirst to explore deeper questions. For example, they want to discuss what it means to be human in a world where genocide takes place. I love delving into these questions and the students' intense engagement in a topic that I am committed to exploring.

Teaching at Mount St. Mary's Weekend College is a wonderful opportunity to be involved in epistemological and ethical discussions that can make a difference in society. The education these students earn has far reaching effects for future generations who will also wrestle with issues of genocide. ⚜

Jaye Houston is an instructor in Mount St. Mary's Weekend College, located at the Doheny Campus.

calendar

JOIN US...

on Oct. 10, for Homecoming 2009. Reunions this year will be celebrated by the classes of 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004. For more information, contact Jeanne Ruiz '63, director of alumnae relations, at 213.477.2769 or jruiz@msmc.la.edu.

on Dec. 19, to tour the historic Doheny Mansion. Tours are at 9, 9:45, 10:30, and 11:15 a.m. For more information, go to www.dohenymansion.org or call 213.477.2962. Tickets are $25 per person.

The following calendar represents only some of the events at Mount St. Mary's College. For more up-to-date listings, visit www.msmc.la.edu and click on "Calendars." For alumnae events, visit www.msmcalums.la.edu.

Photo: Glenn Marzano

J. Thomas McCarthy Library, Doheny Campus

october

9 Alumnae Concert, Chalon Campus, 310.954.4265
10 Homecoming 2009, Alumnae Relations, 213.477.2767

november

1 Application Deadline, MBA program (Spring 2009), for applicants with business administration degree, 213.477.2800
15 Application Deadline, Masters in Nursing, Humanities, Psychology, Religious Studies, and Education programs (Spring 2009), 213.477.2800

december

1 Application Deadline, Doctor of Physical Therapy program (Fall 2010), 213.477.2800
4 Christmas Choral Concert, Chalon Campus, 310.954.4265
12 Application Deadline, Weekend College (Spring 2009), 213.477.2866
19 Doheny Mansion Public Tours, 213.477.2962

1929

On June 16, 1929, over 2,000 people braved a steep, unpaved fire road and threatening weather for a doubleheader: the College's first commencement, and groundbreaking at the site of the new campus. Soon after Archbishop John J. Cantwell turned over the first ceremonial shovel of dirt (top right), Mount construction crews were busy taking 40 feet off the mountain ridge to create a 36-acre spread. This became the canvas on which architect Mark Daniels sketched his vision for a campus inspired by the Gothic universities of Spain (top left), a vision realized in the graceful dimensions of Brady Hall (bottom left), which is recognizable in Daniels' sketch as the tower on the left (viewed from the southwest). Construction of this all-purpose building — classrooms, dorms, kitchen, convent, chapel and library — began in the fall of 1929 and lasted nearly a year and a half. The land and building were partly financed by a $300,000 mortgage, equivalent to more than $3.7 million today. ⚜

—Victoria McCargar, College archivist

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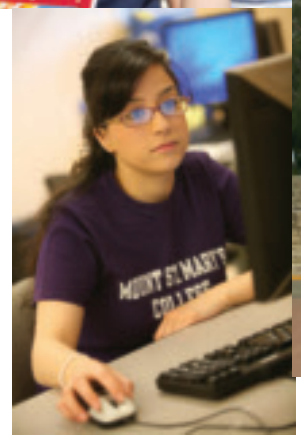

Mount St. Mary's College Spirit Wear